

Docket # 97-55

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3-29-1997

APR 2 1997

To Whom It May Concern,

FCC MAIL ROOM

I don't think the current new rating system is of any value.

I also don't think a more detailed rating system will be any better- as it will tell the children just what to watch , if mom & dad aren't home. I'm raising teens & I'm constantly turning off offensive programs. But when I'm not home- what am I suppose to do ? They will watch the programs just for the sexual content.

I really object to programming that is pushing the limits, like NYPD Blue. It won't be long before nudity is accepted on TV if you don't do your job!!

Fed UP With Trash TV!!!!

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Mrs. D. Thompson
21835 Calleb Pl.
Abuim Fl.
32071

CS97-55

Laura C. Smit
Francisco J. Ramirez
6486 Summer Cloud Way
Columbia, MD 21045, USA

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Chairman Reed Hundt
and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

I oppose the proposed television rating system based on Age. It will not provide me with information about the content of programs on T.V.

I support a descriptive content-based rating system - that way I can know if there is Violent content, sexual content or Adult Language.

I would like to be able to decide what is best for my children. Please do not approve the TV industry's rating system.

Sincerely, Laura C. Smit

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CS97-55

March 31, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and ~~DOCKET~~ FILE COPY ORIGINAL
FCC Commissioners
% Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt & Commissioners:

I urge you to replace the Age Based Rating System for television shows with a content based system. What some people consider acceptable for a certain age is not what others may find appropriate. It is difficult as parents to allow television viewing if we do not know if sexual issues or unacceptable language is present. Even so-called "family shows" often contain questionable subject matter for children and teenagers.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely, Carol Farnshaw

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March 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20534

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am (we are) writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Copper Mill Elem. (local, council, district, or state PTA) to voice my (our) opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Major surveys released this fall which demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of programs were conducted by the National PTA, *U. S. News and World Report*, and Media Studies Center/Roper. Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based on content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I (we) do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. Instead, we request the following:

- That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs such as V (for violence), S (for sexual depiction and nudity) and L (for language);
- That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system;
- That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course of a program;
- That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and that it include parents; and
- That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issue so important to children and families.

Sincerely,

Your Name

David Rodriguez
Hermantown, MD
20874

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March 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

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Guil Rodriguez
Reumantom, MD 20874

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fce
Missouri Association For
Family & Community Education



Volunteers in Community Service • Promoting Family Life
Developing Leadership • Educational Organization

Joyce Smith
Vice President

Rt. 2 • Box 1700 • Niangua, MO 65713
Tel/Fax: 417-473-6252

fce
Missouri Association For
Family & Community Education

CS97-55

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APR 2 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

February 20, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Chong:

As a member of the National Association for Family & Community Education, and its affiliated Missouri State Association, we are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's ratings system. In addition to the age-based ratings system we support a content-based system, also.

We are grass-root organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based TV ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in American today.

Sincerely,

Joyce Smith

Joyce Smith
MO FCE Vice-President/Public Policy Chairman
Route 2 Box 1700
Niangua MO 65713



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February 3, 1997

CS97-55

Commissioner Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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APR 2 1997

DOCKET FILE CC.Y ORIGINAL

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioner Chong,

I am writing to request that a public hearing be held regarding the television rating system.

Yours truly,

*Bettie Lucas, President
West Virginia FCE
an affiliate of National Association
for Family & Community Education*



Wood County Association for
Family & Community Education

Bettie Lucas
President
West Virginia FCE
423 New England Ridge
Washington, WV 26181
Phone & FAX: 304-863-8734

"The Future Is What We Make It"

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APR 2 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

February, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Commissioner Chong

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's ratings system.

The National Association For Family and Community Education and its affiliate, Arizona State Association, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,

Edward and Janne Purvis
222 - 1251
Yuma, Az 85364 - 3938

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APR 2 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

February __, 1997

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The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's ratings system.

The National Association for Family & Community Education and its affiliate, FCE-Illinois State Association, as well as the Lee County Homemakers Education Association are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 plus years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,

Vernice BrassNo. of Copies rec'd _____
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CS97-55

fce
Texas Association For
Family & Community Education
Carrol Davig
Rt. 4 Box 224A
Victoria, Tx 77904

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

February 24, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Chong:

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's ratings system.

The National Association for Family & Community Education and its affiliate, Texas Association for Family & Community Education, are grass roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,



Carrol Davig
TAFCE President

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C897-55



Oklahoma Association For
Family & Community Education

February 9, 1997

**The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554**

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APR 2 1997

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary**

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Commissioner Chong;

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's rating system.

The National Association for Family & Community Education and its affiliate, Oklahoma State Association, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sue Rendel'.

**Sue Rendel, State President
Oklahoma Association for Family & Community Education
59201 E. 70 Rd.
Miami, Oklahoma 74354-9405
Phone 918-542-2092 Fax 918-542-5838**

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APR 2 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

DUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

February, 1997

2/24/97

The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Chong

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's ratings system.

The National Association for Family & Community Education and its affiliate, Louisiana State Association, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,

Maureen B. Felder
Vice President for Public Policy
La. FCE
14195 Jones Rd.
Ponchartraine, La. 70454



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Michigan Association For
Family & Community Education

CS 97-55
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3180 Apple Road
Ann Arbor, MI. 48106
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

February 21, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to address the issue of the television ratings system as proposed by the television industry recently. I firmly believe that, while great strides have been made in giving parents tools to better monitor their children's television viewing, more work is needed. Because of this, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the ratings system.

As a member of the Michigan Association for Family and Community Education, and its affiliate, the National Association for Family and Community Education, I have been very interested in the progress made toward improved television for our children. I believe that television could be a wonderful educational tool for children to learn about other cultures and the world, but that too much emphasis has been placed on the entertainment and commercial aspects of television.

Because the focus of television has been primarily on entertainment, it has become necessary for parents to closely monitor their children's viewing so that programs that contain objectionable content are not welcomed into their home. The strides that have been made (the V-chip, and the 3 hour rule) have helped, and a ratings system based on content would give parents one more tool to assist them in their struggle to bring up healthy children in the '90s and beyond. While the age based system begins to address the problem, it does not go far enough toward fully informing parents of the program content, and it leaves parents relying on the television industry to decide what age should be allowed to watch certain programs.

Please consider a public hearing on this important issue before a final decision is made. I believe it is necessary to hear from a wide variety of people to give parents the best system available for their needs.

Sincerely,

Denise K. Hubbard
Denise K. Hubbard

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APR 2 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Commissioner Chong:

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's ratings system.

The National Association for Family and Community Education and its affiliate Illinois State Association, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,



Mary Ellen Keegan, President
FCE-Illinois

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Florida Association For
Family & Community Education

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

February 21, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street
Washington, DC 20554

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Commissioner Chong

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's ratings system.

The National Association for Family and Community Education and its affiliate, Florida association for Family and Community Education, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. THE ORGANIZATIONS CONSIST OF MOTHERS AND GRANDMOTHERS. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely

Gloria Jasinski, Family Community Leadership Chair

Gloria Jasinski

Phone/Fax 813/920-5703

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APR 2 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

February 21, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Chong,

I am writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's rating system.

The National Association for Family and Community Education and its affiliate South Dakota State Association, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television rating system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television rating system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,

Margaret Suhr
SDAFCE State President



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CS 97-55

fce
Missouri Association For
Family & Community Education

February 20, 1997

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Rachelle Chong
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Chong:

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's rating system.

The National Association for Family & Community Education and its affiliate, Missouri State Association, are grass roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based TV ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

I am an FCE member and I have just collected over 100 signatures from people who have pledged to "Tune Out Violence on TV," on April 5th. Most have commented that they don't watch TV anymore because of the smutty programming. Some have listed Cartoons as the most violent. One Christian mother of four told me today that they have removed the TV from their home completely because they got tired of switching channels. Have you watched Cartoons lately? No wonder our young people are going bad. This certainly does influence our children's behavior. Please consider seriously what is being offered for our children to view.

Sincerely,

Bette Jo Sharp

Bette Jo Sharp
A Concerned Grandmother

fce
Missouri Association For
Family & Community Education



Bette Jo Sharp
Northwest District Director
2211 Woodruff • Bethany, MO 64424
Tel: 816-425-3693 • FAX: 816-425-6657

Volunteers in Community Service • Promoting Family Life
Developing Leadership • Educational Organization



Donna Penn Towns

CS97-8

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APR 1 1997

FCC MAIL ROOM 3 COX NECK ROAD EAST
CHESTER, MARYLAND 21619

April 1, 1997

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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APR 1 1997

FCC MAIL ROOM

Dear Mr. Caton:

I join the National Black Child Development Institute in urging the Federal Communications Commission to rule the TV Parental Guidelines unacceptable. The proposal by the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Cable Television Association, and the Motion Picture Association of America does not protect the parental choice and empowerment guarantees provided by the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The legislation states that parents should be provided with "timely information about the nature of upcoming video programming" in order to be empowered to choose appropriate programming for their children. The Parental Guidelines do not comply fully with the spirit or the letter of that provision.

Specifically, I have six examples that validate my concern: (1) The system does not rate program content adequately. Parents need to know the degree of a program's sexual, violence, and language content to make informed decisions about what their children watch. (2) The rating icon appears too briefly (15 seconds) before the start of a program. Parents easily can miss it. (3) Television listings are not obligated to publish the rating system. As a result, parents will not have a reliable source of advance ratings information. (4) Commercials advertising television programs which are inadvisable for children can be aired during programs which are suitable for children. That oversight potentially exposes children to harmful programming. (5) Local stations can opt to change or not to feature a rating, which also infringes on a parent's right to have reliable and timely ratings information and (6) the Oversight Monitoring Board established to review the guidelines on a regular basis consists exclusively of representatives with vested interests (the broadcast, cable and creative sectors). Child and parent advocates are not represented.

As a parent, grandparent and child advocate, I care about the rating system and hope that the FCC will take my concerns under advisement.

Sincerely,



Donna Penn Towns

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March 20, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

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APR 2 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS DOCKET NO. 97-55, FCC 97-34


I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Russell Elementary PTA, Brownsville, TX, to voice my opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV Screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Major surveys released this fall which demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of programs were conducted by the National PTA, *US News and World Report*, and Media Studies Center/Roper. Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based on Content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. Instead we request the following:

- * That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs such as V (for violence), S (for sexual depiction and nudity) and L (for Language);
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- * That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and that it include parents; and
- * That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issue so important to children and families.

Sincerely,


800 Lakeside
Brownsville, TX 78520

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March 20, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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RE: CS DOCKET NO. 97-55, FCC 97-34

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Sincerely,

Jeresa Ochoa Montgomery
8 Dale Ct.
Brownsville, Texas 78520

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March 20, 1997

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Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS DOCKET NO. 97-55, FCC 97-34

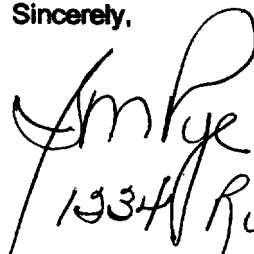
I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Russell Elementary PTA, Brownsville, TX, to voice my opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV Screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Major surveys released this fall which demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of programs were conducted by the National PTA, *US News and World Report*, and Media Studies Center/Roper. Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based on Content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issue so important to children and families.

Sincerely,


1934 Russell Ave #303
Brownsville, Texas, USA
78520

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March 20, 1997

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Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

APR 2 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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- * That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs such as V (for violence), S (for sexual depiction and nudity) and L (for Language);
- * That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system;
- * That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course of a program;
- * That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and that it include parents; and
- * That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issue so important to children and families.

Sincerely,

Notalio De Leon

800 Lakeside

Brownsville, Tx 78521

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March 20, 1997

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Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS DOCKET NO. 97-55, FCC 97-34

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Mrs. D. Morales

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issue so important to children and families.

Sincerely, *DELIA GARZA*

1155 Central Blr. 3E.

Brownsville, Tx 78521

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Sincerely,

Maria Pantoja
541-43-59.

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Brownsville, Tx 78521

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